

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): ROFFELSEN, FRANCISCUS

For: NON-RETURN VALVE

International Application No. PCT/NL99/00605

International Filing Date: 29 September 1999 Atty. Docket: VRNGDE P46US

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

*N. Kwon
#6/Pre
amlt a
7/13/2001*

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

✓ Please amend existing claim 3 ✓ as follows:

3. A non-return valve according to claim 1, characterized in that at least one further ring (62) is provided in the groove, freely displaceable relative to the groove walls, so that the groove is subdivided into several gaps (66) all shut off by an O-ring (59). 1/2

✓ Please amend existing claim 6 ✓ as follows:

6. A non-return valve according to claim 1, characterized in that a screening cap (40; 60; 81) ⁽⁷⁰⁾ connected to the valve member (32; 52; 72) is provided at a distance around the O-ring (39; 59; 79), the interior of said screening cap being in open communication with the environment.

✓ Please amend existing claim 7 ✓ as follows: